GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1913
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
National Ganga River Basin Authority
Shah Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of functions and duties assigned to National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) along with its composition and the date of establishment;

(b) the details of meetings held by NGRBA during the last two years and the current year including the outcome of the same by indicating the follow up action taken in the matter so far; and

(c) the details of the schemes formulated/proposed to be formulated to check the pollution caused by the cities and villages situated on the bank of river Ganga?

Answer

THE HON'BLE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) The Central Government by a Notification dated 20.02.2009, has set up the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' (NGRBA) as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for the Ganga River, in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 under Ministry of Environment and Forest . It was transferred under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MOWR, RD & GR) vide notification dated 29th September 2014.
The Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Authority, and it has as its members, the Union Ministers concerned, and the Chief Ministers of the States through which Ganga flows, viz., Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, among others. The Authority may co-opt up to ten members who are experts on the subject.

The functions of the Authority include all measures necessary for planning and execution of programmes for abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga in keeping with sustainable development needs.

(b) During 2013-15, two meeting of NGRBA has taken place (4th Meeting on 27.10.2014 and 5th Meeting on 26.03.2015). The broad outcomes and details of follow up action are:
i. Maintaining environmental flow
ii. Identifying Short term (3 years), Medium Term (5 years) and long term (10 years) programme/activities
iii. Improving Institutional mechanism for expeditious implementation, Strengthen of NMCG and SPMG, PPP mode for executing projects and Establishment of Clean Ganga Fund

(c) The Government has launched Namami Gange programme for conservation of river Ganga and its tributaries under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MOWR,RD&GR). The primary focus of the program is on pollution abatement through construction of Sewage Treatment Plants, Common Effluent Treatment Plants, Ghat Development, Solid Waste Management and other activities to stop pollutants from reaching river Ganga. Besides this, the other activities like Bio-diversity conservation, large scale tree plantation, making villages along river Ganga Open Defecation Free (ODF), research studies and public outreach programmes have also been envisaged.

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